

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1437
INFO AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

UNCLAS VIENNA 3017

FOR EUR/RPE

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: COE, CSCE, AU
SUBJ: COUNCIL OF EUROPE TO DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR HELSINKI
CSCE REVIEW IN BELGRADE

REF: A) STRASBOURG 53 B) VIENNA 2106

1. AUSTRIAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTY AND CURRENT PRESIDENT
OF COUNCIL OF EUROPE (COE) PROFESSOR KARL CZERNITZ ANNOUNCED
IN VIENNA PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 13 THAT MAIN BUSINESS OF
APRIL 25-29 SESSION OF COE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY WOULD BE
DISCUSSION OF PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE CSCE BELGRADE
REVIEW CONFERENCE, WITH AIM OF DRAFTING RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR COE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL. PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM US
AND CANADA, BOTH SIGNATORIES TO HELSINKI ACCORD, AS NOTED
BY CZERNITZ, HAVE ALSO BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND DISCUSSIONS,
AS HAS BEEN VIENNA'S MAYOR GRATZ.

2. IN COMMENT ON UPCOMING BELGRADE CONFERENCE CZERNITZ
STATED IT SHOULD NEITHER BE TURNED INTO TRIBUNAL NOR
IGNORE QTE BURNING ISSUE UNQTE OF HUMAN RIGHTS.
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CZERNITZ TERMED BEST APPROACH WOULD BE FOR BELGRADE
CONFERENCE TO PICK OUT SEVERAL SPECIFIC ITEMS FROM
BASKETS 2 AND 3 ON WHICH VIEWS ARE CURRENTLY SO CLOSE
AS TO ALLOW FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE ITEMS WITHIN
TWO OR THREE-YEAR PERIOD.

3. CZERNITZ TOOK OCCASION TO EXPRESS AGAIN PUBLICLY

AUSTRIA'S REGENT THAT PROJECTED EAST-WEST ROUND TABLE CONFERENCE OF CSCE PARLIAMENTARIANS, INITIALLY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 25-26 IN VIENNA, DID NOT MATERIALIZE DUE TO USSR'S RECENT DECISION TO BACK OUT OF WHAT WAS UNDERSTOOD AS EARLIER COMMITMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO ATTEND. AUSTRIAN PRESS ACCOUNTS OF CZERNITZ'S OBSERVATION SPECULATED THAT SOVIET UNION'S CHANGE IN POSITION WAS DUE EITHER TO ABSENCE THUS FAR OF CLEAR-CUT SOVIET POLICY LINE IN UPCOMING BELGRADE CONFERENCE OR DESIRE BY SOVIETS TO AVOID INDICATING AT THIS JUNCTURE TACTICS THEY ARE LIKELY TO PURSUE AB BELGRADE MEETING.

4. INVITATION TO US AND CANADIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS AND TO MAYOR GRATZ TO TAKE PART IN APRIL 25-29 COE DISCUSSIONS PROMPTED BY WASHOUT OF EARLIER PROJECTED EAST-WEST ROUND TABLE IN VIENNA, WHICH FORESAW GRATZ HOSTING AND INVITATIONS TO US AND CANADIAN DEPUTIES, AND TO AUSTRIAN DESIRE AS ARTICULATED EARLIER BY CHANCELLOR KREISKY TO BETTER COORDINATE WESTERN POSITIONS PRIOR TO BELGRADE MEETING.

5. CZERNITZ REMAINED EMBASSY THIS WEEK OF MAJOR

IMPORTANCE OF HAVING US CONGRESSIONAL PARTICIPATION AT STRASBOURG COE MEETING.MEEHAN

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